Surveying Strategies of Loanword Prosody Stuart Davis Indiana University

While much work on loanword phonology has focused on issues regarding segmental adaptation, few works have focused on loanword prosody, specifically cases where there is a mismatch of suprasegmental type as when borrowing occurs from a stress-accent language into a pitch-accent language or from either of these language types into a tone language (though see the articles in Lingua by Kubozono 2006 and Kang 2010). The factors that are at play in assigning accent/tone to loanwords are quite different from issues of segmental adaptation. One reason for this is that even if speakers can accurately perceive the location of stress or accent of a source word, there may be no direct way to interpret such if the borrowing language's prosodic system is so different. In such cases, a language needs to develop a strategy to assign prosody to loanwords. This paper catalogues a number of representative cases of borrowings mainly focusing on East Asian languages, where in each case the strategy for assigning loanword prosody differs. We will consider at least six cases: English borrowings into Japanese (reviewing Kubozono 2006), loanwords in Modern Hebrew, Mandarin and English loanwords in Lhasa Tibetan (reviewing Hsieh and Kenstowicz 2008 in JEAL), English borrowings into South Kyungsang Korean, English borrowings into North Kyungsang Korean, and Japanese borrowings into Taiwanese (Southern Min). Each of these cases involves different issues with respect to prosodic considerations and each reflects a different strategy in the adaptation of prosody on the loanword. With English borrowings into Japanese, source words with stress accent have to be assigned a pitch accent. In the Lhasa Tibetan case, borrowed words need to be assigned either an initial high tone or low tone. Similarly, in the South Kyungsang Korean case, the initial syllable of the loanword needs to be assigned a high tone or low tone. However, the mechanisms for initial tone assignment in these two cases are very different. English borrowings into North Kyungsang Korean present a case similar to Japanese where English stress-accent needs to be accommodated in a lexical pitch-accent system. But the strategy found for accent assignment in North Kyungsang Korean is different from that in the Japanese case. We further consider the case of Japanese words borrowed into Taiwanese Southern Min where source words with pitch accent must be accommodated in a complex tonal system. We conclude by discussing why languages might choose some strategies over others.