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### **Types of Accent Kernels and their Geographical Distribution in Japanese**

According to my interpretation, there are three types of accent kernels in the Japanese accent systems. The first type is found in dialects in Tokyo, Kyoto and many others. In these dialects, there is a lowering kernel, which lowers the pitch of what follows it. The second type is found in the Narada dialect in Yamanashi Prefecture and the Hasuda dialect in Saitama Prefecture, where a raising kernel raises the pitch of the following mora or syllable. The third type involves an ascending kernel, which is characterized by the rise in pitch on the mora or syllable that is associated with the accent kernel. This third type is found in the Tohoku and Ryukyu dialects. In this talk, I will discuss the geographical distribution of these three types of accent kernels and their historical relations.