

## Nonfinal information focus in Serbian – some experimental data

Using as a starting point the hypothesis that there might exist a subtype of information focus, termed *nonfinal information focus* (Halupka-Rešetar 2009), which is not realized in sentence final position, the presentation challenges the standard minimalist claim that PF has to pronounce the highest member of a nontrivial chain. The analysis put forward in Halupka-Rešetar 2009 rests, on the one hand, on viewing [+f] as a lexical feature, and on the other hand, on a version of Bošković's (2008) PLC, which allows the pronunciation of a lower copy if doing so does not violate any phonological constraints (e.g. the obligatory second position of clitics in Serbian). This analysis was put to a test by examining the prosodic properties of sentences uttered by native speakers of Serbian, with the goal of corroborating the assumption that non-final information focus needs to be prosodically marked. The analysis based on the results obtained in the experiment predicts that this type of information focus can occur crosslinguistically in languages in which word order is relatively free (e.g. Serbian), but not in languages in which word order is governed by rules of grammar (e.g. English)

Key words: syntax, phonology, information focus, word order, Serbian.

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