

University of Vienna, Dept. of East Asian Studies
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"Speaking Chinese fluently and naturally: Introduction to prosodic transcription CHIPROT"



WORKSHOP

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target audience: practicing teachers, students of all levels, researchers

Features of connected speech such as stress, phrasing, intonation, and information structure have crucial linguistic and communicative functions. Yet these features are seldom given attention in L2 teaching in general, and in TCSL in particular. Students often tend to produce Chinese utterances as a series of fully tonic syllables of equal prominence, sometimes with incorrectly placed breaks. To help learners become more natural and fluent I have designed a **prosodic transcription CHIPROT** for L2 teaching purposes. It can be used **to transcribe the recordings of common colloquial utterances**, produced at a natural speech tempo. It reflects fundamental prosodic features of fluent speech, namely the degree of prominence of particular syllables (four degrees: *ba*, *bā*, *bǎ*, *Bǎ*), and grouping (prosodic words and prosodic phrases). It is based on Hanyu Pinyin, being rather iconic and easy to implement / use.

For example:

你的那只钢笔在哪儿?	(Chinese characters)
<i>Nǐde nèi zhī gāngbǐ zài nǎr?</i>	(plain Hanyu Pinyin)
<i>Nǐde nèi-zhī gāngbǐ zài-NǎR?</i>	(CHIPROT)

The workshop will offer a “cookbook” for CHIPROT. I will demonstrate how common colloquial recorded utterances containing high-frequency words can be transcribed. The teachers will be advised how to use CHIPROT in their pedagogical practice while preparing teaching materials. The students may learn how to transcribe simple sentences.

CHIPROT is implemented in the textbook Třísková, H. *Speak Mandarin in a “haoting” way: prosody of colloquial Mandarin*. Prague: Academia Publishing House, 2021 (in Czech). English translation is in progress. There are more than 80 utterances transcribed by means of CHIPROT. The book will be briefly introduced at the end of the workshop.

April 14, 2022