

GRIN

**Workshop on GRadiance in Intonation
Lisbon, 27 May 2022**



**SESSION 4
16:00-16:30**

Jelena Krivokapić, Will Styler, and Sankaranarayanan Ananthakrishnan

University of Michigan

Individual differences in boundary perception

We examine the question of how many prosodic categories exist in the prosodic hierarchy. Most theories assume a small set of prosodic categories that are marked by categorically different prosodic boundaries. An alternative view suggests the possibility of gradiently varying prosodic boundaries. We evaluate these two opposing views in a perceptual study focusing specifically on the examination of individual language users and the role of individual differences in evaluating this question. The results suggest that above the word level there is only one phrase level category with gradiently varying strength. We examine how these findings fit with the known functions of prosodic phrases and discuss how models of prosodic structure can capture them.